

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 9 is added and the Specification is amended. No new matter is added.

The Specification was objected to under 37 CFR §1.77(b) for lacking section headings. By this Amendment, the Specification has been amended to include section headings. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Yamamoto, U.S. Patent No. 6,892,481. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for a circuit board that converts the set point signal into a power signal whose power is greater than the power of the set point signal and which is intended to be delivered to the electrohydraulic device.

Yamamoto discloses a controller 9 with an amplifier 9a and a trimmer 9b (see col. 7, lines 21-39). The amplifier 9a amplifies the voltage of the signal (see col. 7, lines 23-25) and the trimmer 9b adjusts the output voltage of the sensor 6b between upper and lower limits (see col. 7, lines 25-27). That is, Yamamoto discloses a voltage signal, not a power signal as called for in claim 1.

Further, in order for Yamamoto's signal to be used to control an electrohydraulic device, amplification is required to convert this signal into a power signal. Yamamoto indicates that the joystick can be used with a game-dedicated computer (see col. 5, lines 17-19). If the joystick can be used with a game computer, this indicates that the current level of the output signal is about a few milliamperes, which is insufficient for a power signal that is intended to be delivered to an electrohydraulic device. Therefore, Yamamoto fails to disclose a circuit board converting the set point signal into a power signal whose power is greater than the power of the set point signal and which is intended to be delivered to the electrohydraulic device, as called for in claim 1.

Claims 2-6 depend from, and are patentable with independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamamoto in view of Thoman, U.S. Patent No. 4,386,553. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamamoto in view of Johnson, U.S. Patent No. 5,675,609. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from, and are patentable with independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite. Further, neither Thoman nor Johnson overcome the deficiencies of Yamamoto. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

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